

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, line 1, as follows:

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a pneumatic tire, more particularly, to a bead and lower-sidewall structure being capable of reducing the tire weight without deteriorating other tire performance.

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, line 5 with the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In recent years, from a point of view of environmental protection, it has becomes become very important for automobile tires or pneumatic tires to reduce tire weight. The tire weight can be easily decreased by decreasing the thicknesses of rubber components and the ply number of the carcass. But, there is a possibility that the steering stability is will deteriorated deteriorate by the resultant decrease in tire rigidity. If rubber thickness, for example the sidewall rubber thickness, is decreased, and as a result the compliance thereof is increased, then the vibration thereof increases when a due to resonance of the air in the tire whose fundamental frequency is about 200 to

250 Hz occurs. This becomes a problem for the recent silent high-grade passenger cars.

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, line 6 with the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a pneumatic tire in which the tire weight is reduced without deteriorating other performance such as steering stability, noise performance and the like.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, line 13 with the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig.1 is a cross sectional view of a tire according to the present invention.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, line 23 with the following:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the drawings, pneumatic tire 1 according to the present invention comprises a tread portion 2, a pair of axially spaced bead portions 4 each with a bead core 5 therein, a pair of sidewall portions 3, a carcass 6 extending between the bead

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portions 4, and a belt 7, 9 disposed radially outside the carcass 6 in the tread portion 2.